CITY AND COUNTY OF LICHFIELD

ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and of the

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR



CITY AND COUNTY OF LICHFIELD

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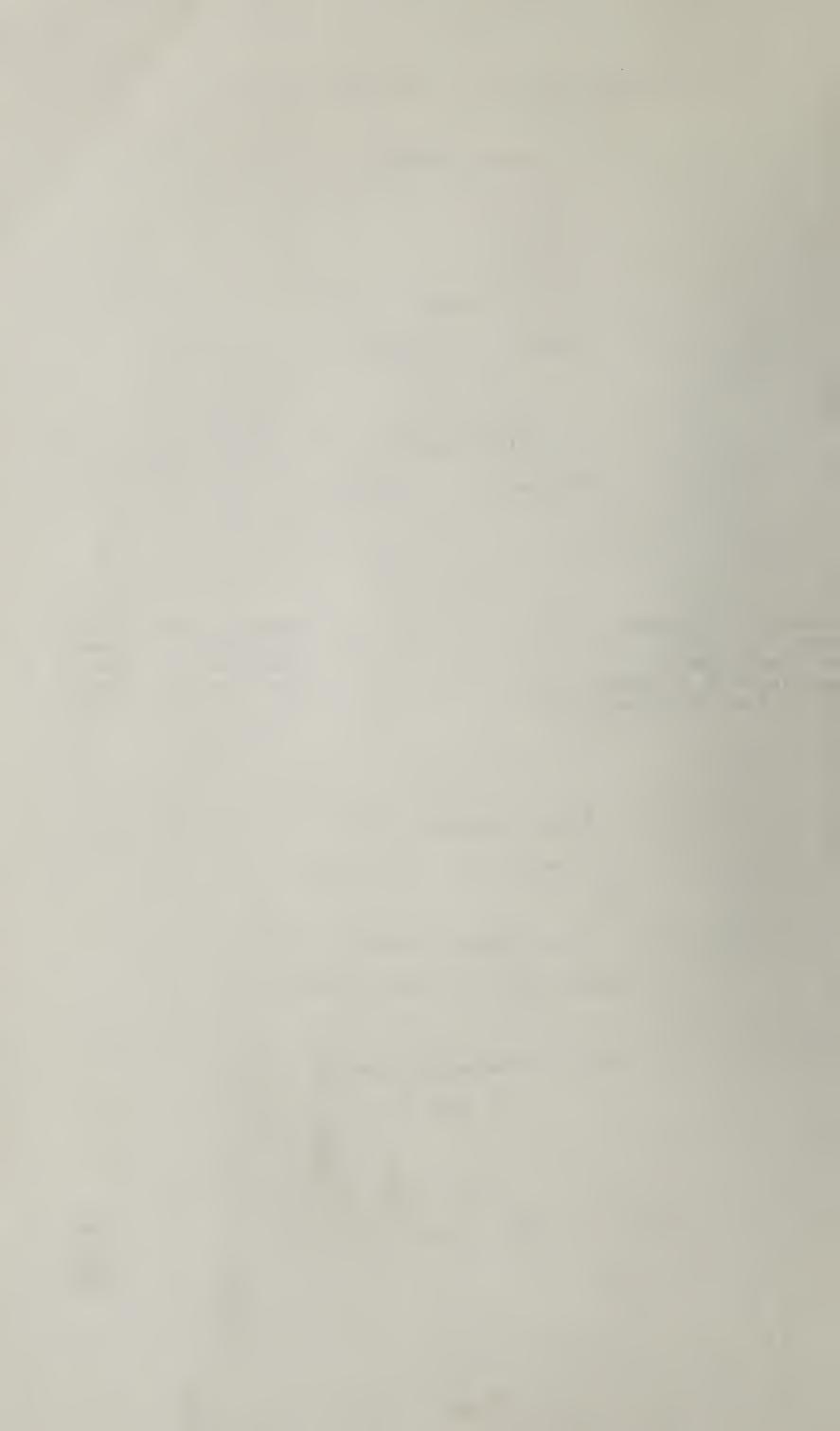
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CITY AND COUNTY OF LICHFIELD

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1966

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors, City and County of Lichfield.

I again have pleasure in presenting my annual report on various aspects of the health of the community and on the work of the Health Department of the Council.

As on previous occasions, I take this opportunity of thanking both Members and Officers of the Council for their continued help and co-operation throughout the year reported on.

C. E. JAMISON
Medical Officer of Health

Guildhall, 3rd August, 1967.



GENERAL STATISTICS

Particulars of area covered, estimated mid-year population, number of inhabited houses, total rateable value of all property subject to rates and the product of a penny rate are set out below:

Area (in acres)	• • • • • •	• • •	3,597
Population	• • • • • •	• • •	21,130
Number of Inhabi	ted Houses	5 • • •	6,296
Total Rateable V	falue of Pr	roperty	£754,023
Product of a Per	nny Rate	• • •	£3,200

The area was, of course, again unchanged as compared with the previous year. Estimated mid-year population showed an increase broadly similar to that of other recent years. The remaining figures illustrate clearly the rapid development now taking place in the growth of Lichfield, a feature likely to be even more evident in reports covering the next few years.

VITAL STATISTICS

The principal statistics, provided by the Registrar General, are set out below in the same form as in previous years:

Live	Births		Mal	le Fema	le Total
	Legitimate Illegitimate		25. 14		495 25
		Totals	26!	255	520

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 Population = 24.6

Still Births		Male	Female	Total
Legitimate Illegitimate		8	4	12
	Totals	8	4	12

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births = 22.5

Deaths of Infants Under One Week	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate Illegitimate	3	2	5
Totals	3	2	5

Early Neonatal Death Rate per 1,000 Live Births = 9.6

Deaths of Infants Under Four Weeks	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate Illegitimate	3	2	5
Totals	3	2	5

Neonatal Death Rate per 1,000 Live Births = 9.6

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ths of Infants Under One Year	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate Illegitimate	6	5	11
Totals	6	5	11

Infant Death Rate per 1,000 Live Births = 21.1

Deaths (All Ages)	Male	Female	Total
	111	102	213

Death Rate (All Ages) per 1,000 Population = 10.1

As 25 live births out of a total of 532 live and still births were illegitimate, this gives a figure of one in 21 births, exactly the same as the figure for 1965 and comparing with one in 28 in 1964, one in 31 in 1963, one in 22 in 1962, one in 18 in 1961, one in 28 in 1960, one in 24 in 1959. It may be encouraging to reflect that, if one compared the first half of the last decade, with an average of one in 21 births with the more recent half of the decade, averaging one in 24 births, an improvement is apparent which contrasts with alarming reports as to the results of the alleged increase in sexual promiscuity. It is also encouraging to note that the illegitimate rate compares favourably with that in most Midland towns, and with those for England and Wales as a whole. As in the previous three years, no stillbirth was reported in an illegitimate pregnancy, and no death occurred in an illegitimate infant. Consequently, no question of comparison of rates arises in relation to this matter.

The following table shows how the statistics, as a whole, compare with those for previous years:-

Year	Estimated Population	Live Birth Rate	Still Birth Rate	Neonatal Death Rate	Infant Death Rate	Death Rate (All Ages)
1957	11,190	20.1	26.0	26.7	26.7	11.6
1958	11,510	21.4	39.0	12.2	24.4	12.4
1959	12,180	17.6	13.7	9.3	18.6	12.7
1960	12,840	22.0	20.8	10.6	24.8	14.2
1961	14,240	21.8	40.2	12.9	12.9	12.6
1962	15,350	20.0	19.2	12.0	19.5	9.5
1963	16,490	24.4	17.1	10.0	12.4	10.4
1964	18,130	24.4	15.5	11.3	27.1	9.9
1965	20,030	26.6	9.3	3.8	9.4	10.2
1966	21,130	24.6	22.5	9.6	21.1	10.1

It may be noted that, although still relatively high, the livebirth rate nation fact, slightly down on the peak of the previous year, possibly showing the beginning of the familiar trend for births to be very high indeed for a year or two following the influx of young couples into new houses, followed by slightly lower figures, once families have been established.

The stillbirth rate was, not unnaturally, higher than the quite abnormally low figures of the previous year, but little different from the average of the previous years shown.

The same comments can be made in relation to the neonatal and infant death rates, which returned from the remarkably low figures recorded in 1965 to figures approximating to the average of the previous decade or so. It may be noted that the death rate for the whole population, regardless of age, was almost identical with that for the previous year and for the average of the preceding four years, but markedly lower than for the average of the five years comprising the first half of the last decade.

After adjusting the figures for births and deaths, in accordance with the respective comparability factors provided by the Registrar General, to allow for variation of age and sex of inhabitants of Lichfield as compared with those in England and Wales as a whole, the following table shows the comparison between local and national figures:

Area	Live St Birth Bi Rate Ra		Neonatal Death Rate	Infant Death Rate	Death Rate (All Ages)		
Lichfield. England and Wales	22.1	22.5 15.4	9.6 12.9	21.1 19.0	9.3		

It will be seen that, in 1966, the stillbirth and infant death rates in Lichfield were rather above the national average, in contrast with the neonatal death rate and the deaths rate for all ages, which were substantially below the national average. In view of marked fluctuations from year to year in infant mortality, due to the small population under consideration, it would obviously be unwise to read too much significance into the figures in question.

Taking stillbirths and deaths before one week of age of liveborn infants, gives a local figure of 31.9 per thousand total births, live and still, which compares with a national one of 26.3 per 1,000. It may be recalled that in the previous year the local figures were considerably better than the national ones, the fluctuation from year to year being largely due, obviously, to the factor mentioned above.

CAUSES OF DEATH

The following table shows the causes of death of persons ordinarily resident in Lichfield who died during the year, regardless of the place of death, headings being omitted where no death was attributed to the group of diseases in question:-

									<u> </u>
Disease	Total	Total	Total Total		Total	Total		19	66
	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	M	F	Total
							2	7	_
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	2	1	1	1		_	Τ	1	2
Syphilitic Disease		-	_	-	_	1	CRIMA		_
Other Infective & Parasitic								7	2
Disease	-		_	_	Τ	_		Τ	Ţ
Malignant Neoplasm of Stomac	h 3	2	4	2	2	_	2	1	3
Malignant Neoplasm of Lung					0	2.0			0
and Bronchus	5	8	2	7	8	10	6	2	8
Malignant Neoplasm of Breast	2	• -	, 2	1	3	7	_	7	7
Malignant Neoplasm of Uterus		; 1	. 1	-	5	1	-	-	-
Other Malignant & Lymphatic					2 =	3.0	10	0	20
Neoplasms	13	19	12	10	15	10	12	8	20
Leukaemia and Aleukaemia	2	1	-	2		-	c/em		G-MITTE



		Total	Total	Total	Total	Total		1966	
Disease	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	M	F	Total
Diabetes	2			2					
Vascular Lesions of	2	_		2	-	1	3	1	4
Nervous System	29	29	24	22	21	26	10	J ("	07
Coronary Disease & Angina	23	27	24	28	31	36	12	15	27
Hypertension with Heart	23	21	24	20	27	25	27	13	40
Disease	2	1	3	4	2	2		2	2
Other Heart Diseases	22	20	18	17	3 19	3 23	~~ 7	3	3 18
Other Circulatory Diseases	6	16	15	15	10	27	7	11	21
Influenza	_	4	6	± <i>J</i>	10	41	1	14	
Pneumonia	6	7	9	4	6	6	7	4	4
Bronchitis	6	8	12	17	9	7	7	2	9
Other Diseases of		Ü	12	+ (7		1	2	9
Respiratory System	4	3	5	4	2	4		1	1
Ulcer of Stomach & Duodenum	-	3 5	5	-	_	2	1	J.	1
Gastritis, Enteritis and			-			2	1	-	Τ.
Diarrhoea	2	1		- Control of the cont	1	2	- 4		
Nephritis and Nephrosis		2	1		-	2	ור	1	2
Hyperplasia of Prostrate	2	_	i	1			1	-	_
Congenital Malformations	5	3	3	2	4	3	2	1	3
Other Defined & Ill-Defined		3		_	7	7	- 1		5
Diseases	42	19	16	26	32	29	9	13	22
Motor Vehicle Accidents	3	1	2	4	2	3	3	ر <u>ب</u>	3
All Other Accidents	_	2	3	2	2	2	3	1	4
Suicide	2	-	ĭ	ī	-	3	1	-	i
							ç		
All Diseases	183	180	166	172	180	205	111	102	213

Taking the 213 deaths as a whole, apart from the ones, mentioned in an earlier paragraph as occurring before the end of the first year of life, one death occurred at two years, one at an age between five and fifteen years, one between 15 and 25 years, four between 25 and 35 years, ten between 35 and 45 years, ten between 45 and 55 years, 35 between 55 and 65 years, 33 between 65 and 75 years and the remaining 107 at ages over 75 years. As usual, deaths in males were more numerous than in females up to 75 years of age, but markedly less numerous in ages beyond 75 years, due to the preponderance of women in the older age-group. This finding, due to the greater longevity of the female as compared with the male is, of course, a well known, if not well understood, phenomenon.

Of the infant deaths, almost half occurred before the end of the first week of life, while the remainder were spread fairly evenly through the remaining months of infancy. As in other recent years, deaths were mainly due either to congenital conditions, prematurity or, in the case of a much smaller number, to respiratory infections.

The two deaths in children who had survived the period of infancy, were both due to forms of cancer to which young children are susceptible. It is, of course, noteworthy that deaths in this age-group are no longer attributable to the infectious diseases which played so large a part in mortality in comparatively recent times, but to conditions like the above, which are not at present readily susceptible to either prevention or treatment.

It will be seen that deaths from cancer of the lung and bronchus were slightly less numerous than in the previous year, but at a higher level than the average of the previous five years. Once again, owing to the fact that the cigarette-smoking habit became established in men long before it was taken up in large numbers by women, the incidence of death from this cause was much greater in men than in women. It may be some consolation that all but one of the deaths occurred at ages in excess of 55 years. It hardly seems worthwhile to make any further comment on the much-discussed topic of the connection between cigarette smoking and lung cancer, apart from the fact that it



has been demonstrated that the incidence of disease can be reduced by giving up the habit even after it has been established for many years, and that the incidence in the medical profession is now, for this reason, starting to decline, even while it is still increasing in the population as a whole.

It may be recorded that, apart from infantile deaths, only two deaths were attributed to influenza, pneumonia or bronchitis at ages below 65 years, both of these being in the preceding decade. This appears to indicate that, at the present time, these are killing diseases only in the elderly. It is, however, notable that, as in other recent years, the incidence of bronchitis was much greater in men than in women due, no doubt, to the same factor, cigarette-smoking, as in the case of lung cancer.

All three deaths resulting from motor vehicle accidents occurred in men, the ages being 19 years, 32 years and 52 years. Insufficient details are available to enable really informative comments to be made, but it is notable that all of the three deaths attributed to this cause in 1965 also occurred in males, although one of these deaths involved a child.

Of the four accidental deaths not due to motor vehicles, two occurred in infancy and were attributed to aspiration of stomach contents, illustrating the danger of lung complications in a child where inhalation of vomit has occurred.

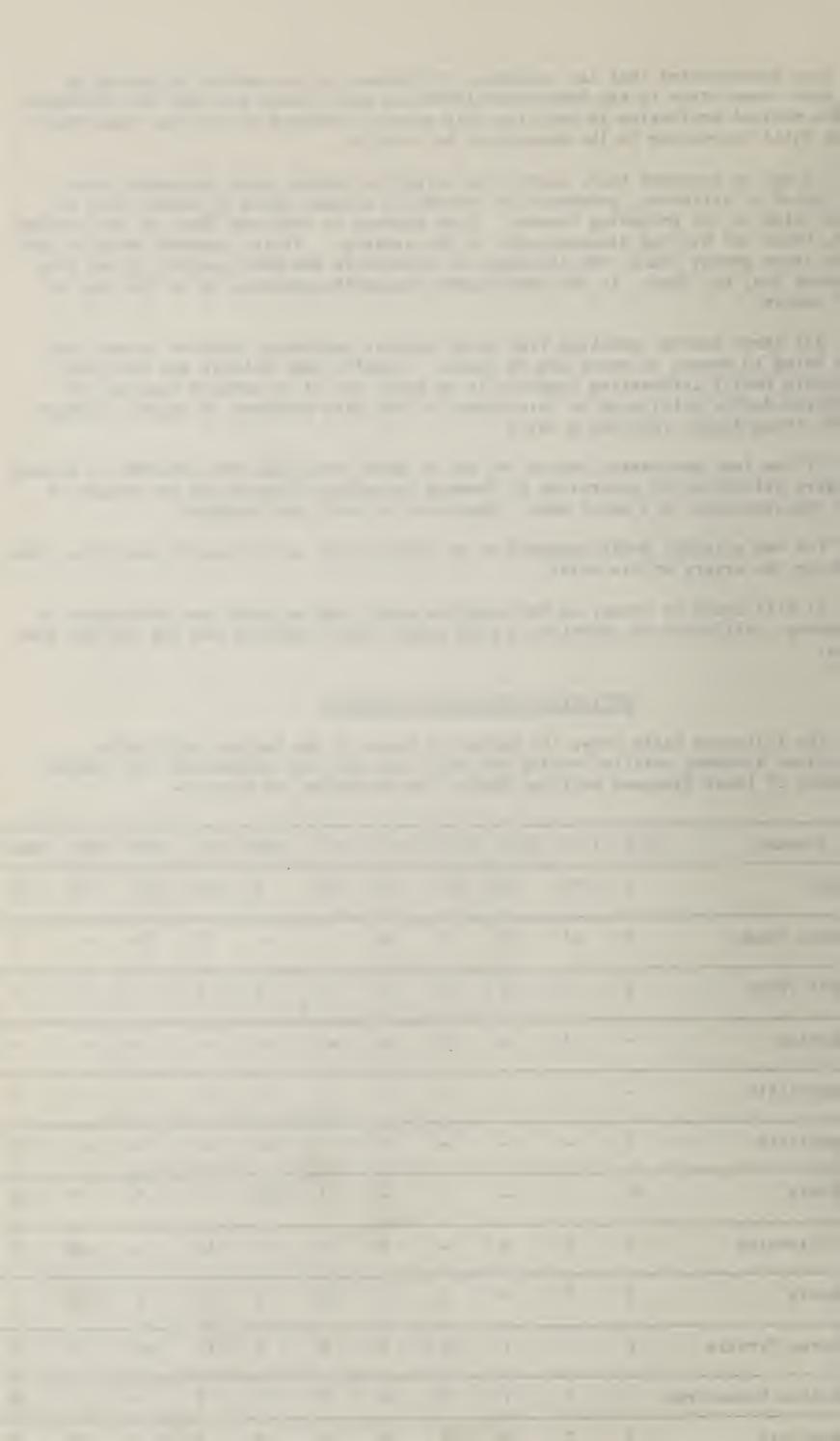
The one suicidal death occurred in an elderly man, in ill-health, who died after severing the artery at his wrist.

It will again be noted, on the negative side, that no death was attributed to pregnancy, childbirth or abortion, a good record that Lichfield has now had for some years.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table shows the number of cases of the various notifiable infectious diseases notified during the year, and also for comparison, the number of cases of these diseases notified during the preceding ten years:-

Disease	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
Measles	2	215	52	209	194	320	3	425	315	70	137
Whooping Cough	7	11	15	1	34	_	•	19	16	-	3
Scarlet Fever	4	2	3	7	2	1	2	8	7	10	7
Erysipelas	-	1	_	1	_	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		-	espito	=	elec
Poliomyelitis	-	2	-	_	*****		_	OMEO	-	.com.	=
Encephalitis	1	Parent . Li ti manda	-	_	-	_	-		-	_	1
Dysentery	20		_	1	-	1	22	_	5	7	44
Food Poisoning	3	4	2	_	2	1	1	13	-	2	3
Pneumonia	1	6	_	2	1	12	1	3	4	4	dis
Puerperal Pyrexia	6	17	7	4	8	8	6	10	12	6	6
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	n –	1	1	1	6	1	2	2	_	-	8
Tuberculosis	4	1	2	2	4	2	2	3	1	2	4



The number of cases of measles, while much larger than in 1965, was not nearly as large as in other epidemic years. In addition, the number of cases varied a good deal from month to month in 1966, with peaks in March and September. It would appear that the characteristic biennial incidence, affecting almost all children not previously affected by the disease, is not much in evidence at the present time. It may be added that it is already obvious that figures for 1967 will be fairly high, suggesting that the 1966 outbreak was only a partial one, which is being continued, somewhere spasmodically, in 1967. The use of the new vaccine has advanced only slowly during 1967, and cannot be regarded as a causal factor in the events mentioned above. It is, as yet, quite impossible to say how large a part it is likely to play in controlling the disease in future years.

The number of cases of whooping cough was again satisfactorily low. It would appear that immunisation of children against whooping cough, now achieved by the use of "triple" vaccine, is having the desired result.

As regards scarlet fever, where no immunisation procedure is employed, the incidence was also quite low, indicating that this disease can be satisfactorily controlled by prompt treatment of the child, in the home, with an appropriate drug.

It will be noted that, as in all years since 1957, no case of poliomyelitis was notified, a record which largely demonstrates the value of the oral vaccine, now in use, in protecting the community from this disease, formerly so much feared. It is to be hoped that our present good fortune will not lull us into a false sense of security, in which the need for continued immunisation might not be realised. Unfortunately, the meagre results of a recent mass immunisation campaign rather suggest that a sense of complacency does now exist among parents.

The large number of cases of dysentery notified arose entirely as a result of an outbreak in a residential nursery, affecting a large number of children and a small number of members of the staff. The outbreak arose in spite of the precautionary practice of isolating all new children admitted until bacteriological confirmation of freedom from this infection has been obtained. It is, of course, realised that visiting relatives, who must on psychological grounds be welcomed, do bring with them a danger of infection which cannot be completely eliminated. Fortunately, the outbreak responded, after a reasonable period, to the usual measures of control i.e. isolation of affected children in hospital and exclusion of affected staff from duty until free from infection, whether as patients or symptomless "carriers".

The three cases of food-poisoning notified during the year were all sporadic infections, quite unrelated to one another. All occurred in women, of whom one worked in a school canteen, while another was married to a man employed in a slaughter-house. Fortunately, the first of these quickly became non-infectious, while the second was affected by an infection which was of such a nature that the chances of transfer to others were not great. Routine measures were taken, and no spread of infection occurred in any of the cases.

Although six cases of puerperal pyrexia and eight cases of ophthalmia neonatorum were notified during the year, there was no reason at all to suppose that any of these were due to causes likely to constitute any significant danger to public health.

All the four cases of tuberculosis notified were of the pulmonary type, and all occurred in young adults or in early middle age, two of the patients being male and two female. One of the two deaths from the disease during the year occurred in one of these patients, the disease being bilateral and in an advanced stage at the time of diagnosis, making successful treatment much more difficult. In actual fact, the patient died shortly after diagnosis. The other death from the disease occurred in a much older person, a female of 64 years who died of complications occurring in a lung many years after the original infection. This type of chronic infection is, of course, resistant to treatment, even with the full range of drugs now in use.



The following table shows how the figures for new cases and for deaths in 1966 compare with those for earlier years:-

		Cases	Deaths					
Year	Pulmo	Pulmonary Non-			Pulmo	monary Non-Pulm		monary
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1947 1948 1949	4 6 3	2 7 3	1 2 3	1 - 3	2 2 3	1 3	1 -	
1950 1951 1952	3 3 1 5	3 3 1	3 3	3 1 4	3 - 2	1 1	1 -	-
1953 1954 1955	2 4 3	1 2 4	1 1 1	1 -	- - - 1	1 -	1	1 -
1956 1957 1958 195 9	1 1 2	_	1	-	- - 1		-	
1960 1961 1962	1 1	1 2 -	1 -	1 1	2 1 1	- - -	i omeo	-
1963 1964 1965 1966	1 1 2	1 1 2	1 1 - -	-	- - 1	1 - 1	-	

It will be noted that, on this occasion, the figures compare somewhere unfavourably with those of other recent years, although they do show up in markedly pleasant contrast to those in the earlier decade shown in the table. There does not appear any obvious reason for the variation of the figures from those of immediately preceding years, and it is probable that the contrast is more apparent than real, due to the exaggerated effect of small variations when considered in relation to a very small population.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION

So far as infectious diseases were concerned, patients continued to be admitted, where necessary, to East Birmingham or Moxley Hospitals. In spite of increasing population, there appears to be no difficulty in securing admission, a circumstance no doubt due partly to the reduced incidence of the more serious infectious disease and partly to the lessened need, under modern conditions of treatment, for the admission even of these to hospital.

Accommodation in hospital for maternity patients was again in short supply, and fairly strictly rationed to those most in need on either medical of social grounds, but the increased provision expected in 1967 was obviously very much required.

Geriatric patients and those responsible for them were again subjected to considerable hardship from the general shortage of beds for this type of patient, which often led to unavoidable delay in admission even of those with genuine and urgent claims for accommodation in hospital. It appears that this difficulty must be endured for another year or two before the provision of further geriatric beds, at Good Hope Hospital, Sutton Coldfield, relieves the situation.



NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 and 1951

No action was taken during the year, under either of these Acts, to compel the admission of any elderly person to hospital or hostel, such action being reserved for quite exceptional cases where extremes of danger or hardship, however self-inflicted, exist.

VENEREAL DISEASE

Arrangements continued as previously recorded. Although treatment is not available locally, and patients have to travel to the hospitals at Birmingham, Walsall, Stafford or Burton, I have no evidence to suggest the facilities are not adequately available to those in need of them for either diagnosis or treatment. As the available statistics are not broken down on a geographical basis, no information is available as to variation of incidence from year to year in this district.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

Facilities at the County Chemical and Public Health Laboratories at Stafford continued on the same basis as previously recorded, and again proved entirely satisfactory during the year, both in relation to examination of specimens and as regards advice on the bacteriological aspects of any public health problem.

WATER SUPPLY

Mr. Taylor, Engineer-in-Chief to the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company, has again been kind enough to supply information relating to the water supply in 1966.

It appears from his report that the supply was again satisfactory both in quantity and quality, being derived from Sandfields, Seedy Mill and Trent Valley pumping stations, and being tested regularly for bacteriological purity in the usual way, both as raw water and after chlorination, which is carried out at most of the pumping stations as a precautionary measure and in all cases where bursting or drainage to pipes provides an additional indication.

He again indicates that the water produced is of a type which does not dissolve lead readily from pipes, but is markedly deficient in fluoride, nowhere containing more than 27% of the recommended amount. It is, in my view, a very sad thought that vociferous but ill-informed opposition to fluoridation of public water supplies has so long delayed, and is still delaying, the widespread adoption of this important public health measure, both nationally and in this district.

FOOD

Many complaints were again received during the year from members of the public, showing the increased importance now being attached to food hygiene. These have been dealt with mostly by the Public Health Inspector, and are referred to in his section of this report. I would only add that it would be helpful, in my view, if members of the public would themselves draw the attention of any shopkeeper or cafe proprietor to any obvious breach of good food hygiene, such as unnecessary handling of foods eaten in the raw condition or allowing the access of flies to such food.

According to information received from the County Medical Officer, the County Council, as Foods and Drugs Authority, were responsible for the collection in Lichfield, during the year, of 12 samples of milk and 40 samples of other foods. All the samples of milk and all but one of the samples of other foods proved to be genuine. The exception was a sample of luncheon meat, in which case action was taken to require the label to be amended.

The following table shows the results of laboratory investigations of other samples of milk, tested for cleanliness and, in appropriate cases, for the efficiency of the pasteurisation and sterilisation processes:

		TEST						
Type of Milk	Methylene Blue (Cleanliness)		Phosphatase (Efficient Pasteurisation)		Turbidity (Efficient Sterilisation)			
	Void	Sat.	Unsat.	Sat.	Unsat.	Sat.	Unsat.	
Tuberculin Tested	Committee of the control of the cont	3.0						
(Pasteurised)	1	12		13		OMO	GMICO	
Pasteurised	10	98	4	112	amo	****	-	
Sterilised		oleo	-	GR25	OWE	35	GMED	

The results again demonstrate the efficiency with which the pasteurisation and sterilisation processes are now carried out, but also that the cleanliness of the milk still leaves something to be desired. Even here, however, the percentage of unsatisfactory samples was lower than in the preceding year.

HOUSING

I am informed by the Housing Manager that the position in relation to rehousing, and the effect on the waiting list for houses, during 1966, was as follows:

Waiting list (excluding overspill) at 1st January	388
Rehoused from	unfit houses	42
Rehoused on ge	neral needs	83
Rehoused under	overspill arrangements	84
Weiting list (overspill arrangements	•
warting list (excluding overspill) at 31st December	479

It is rather remarkable that, during a period of considerable housing activities, when families were being rehoused in quite large numbers, the waiting list should have lengthened so appreciably during the year. I feel certain, however, that the actual need of those now awaiting rehousing is less than was the case with families on the waiting list some years ago.

The following table shows the statutory action taken during the year in relation to houses represented by me as unfit for human habitation:

	Property	Statutory Action
29,	Wade Street	Undertaking Accepted - 14th February, 1966
1 -	19 Victoria Square	Compulsory Purchase Order - 25th July,1966

The number of houses dealt with, 20 in all, was considerably smaller than in the previous year, when 36 houses were the subject of statutory action. The reduction was mainly due to the undesirability of taking further formal action until rehousing could be completed in respect of at least the majority of houses which had been the subject of statutory action in earlier years.



FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Particulars relating to inspections under the Factories Act are set out in the following table:-

No. of Factories on Register	Inspections	No. of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
77	25	Nil	Nil

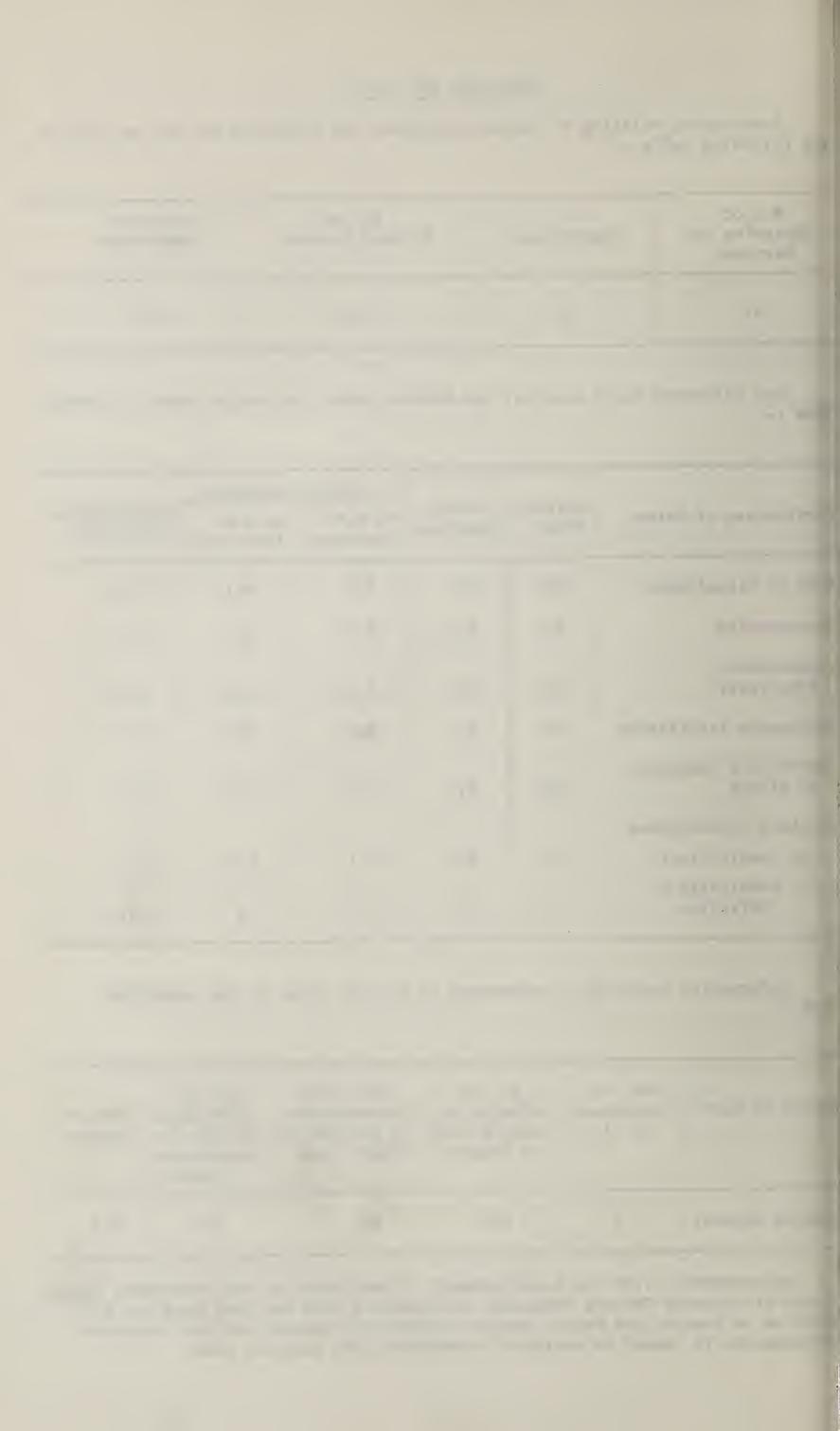
The following table sets out the defects found, and action taken to remedy them:-

Particulars of Defect	Defects Found	Defects Remedied	Defects To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	Prosecutions Instituted
) - 41	inspector	Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable Temperature	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nål
Inadequate Ventilation	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective Drainage of Floors	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or Defective	4	4	Nil	4	Nil

Information relating to outworkers is set out below in the prescribed form :-

Nature of Work	No. of Outworkers on List	No. of Defaults in Sending List to Council	No. of Prosecutions in Failure to Supply Lists	No.of Instances of Work in Unwholesome Places	Notices Served
Wearing Apparel	5	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

In connection with the establishment of new factories and structural alterations at existing factory premises, arrangements have now been made for all plans to be seen by the Public Health Inspector, to ensure that the statutory requirements in regard to sanitary conveniences are complied with.



REPORT OF THE CITY SURVEYOR

Public Conveniences

The public conveniences have been maintained in operation throughout the year and improvements have been made to those adjoining the Market Square. Vandalism has caused serious concern.

Collection and Disposal of Household Refuse

The refuse collection service has worked satisfactorily and consideration is now being given to the installation of a more dust-free system.

The tip off Dimbles Lane has operated without complaint. Further visits and investigations have taken place into forms of refuse disposal and the small pulverization plant has been brought into use at the tip. Progress towards the provision of an incineration plant as a joint venture with the Lichfield R.D.C. has continued to be made. The present proposals are for a plant on a site at Chasetown.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

Further detailed investigation into the modernization required in the City's sewerage system have proceeded and a length of sewer in the Theological College Gardens has been replaced. A length of defective foul sewer in Beacon Street is awaiting loan sanction for its replacement. A surface water sewer has been laid in St. Chad's Road in connection with the road improvement scheme.

A contract for the separation of surface water from the foul sewers in the centre of the town has been completed and a scheme for a storm water overflow and the culverting of the brook at Netherstowe has been finalized and work upon the contract is expected to commence in the near future.

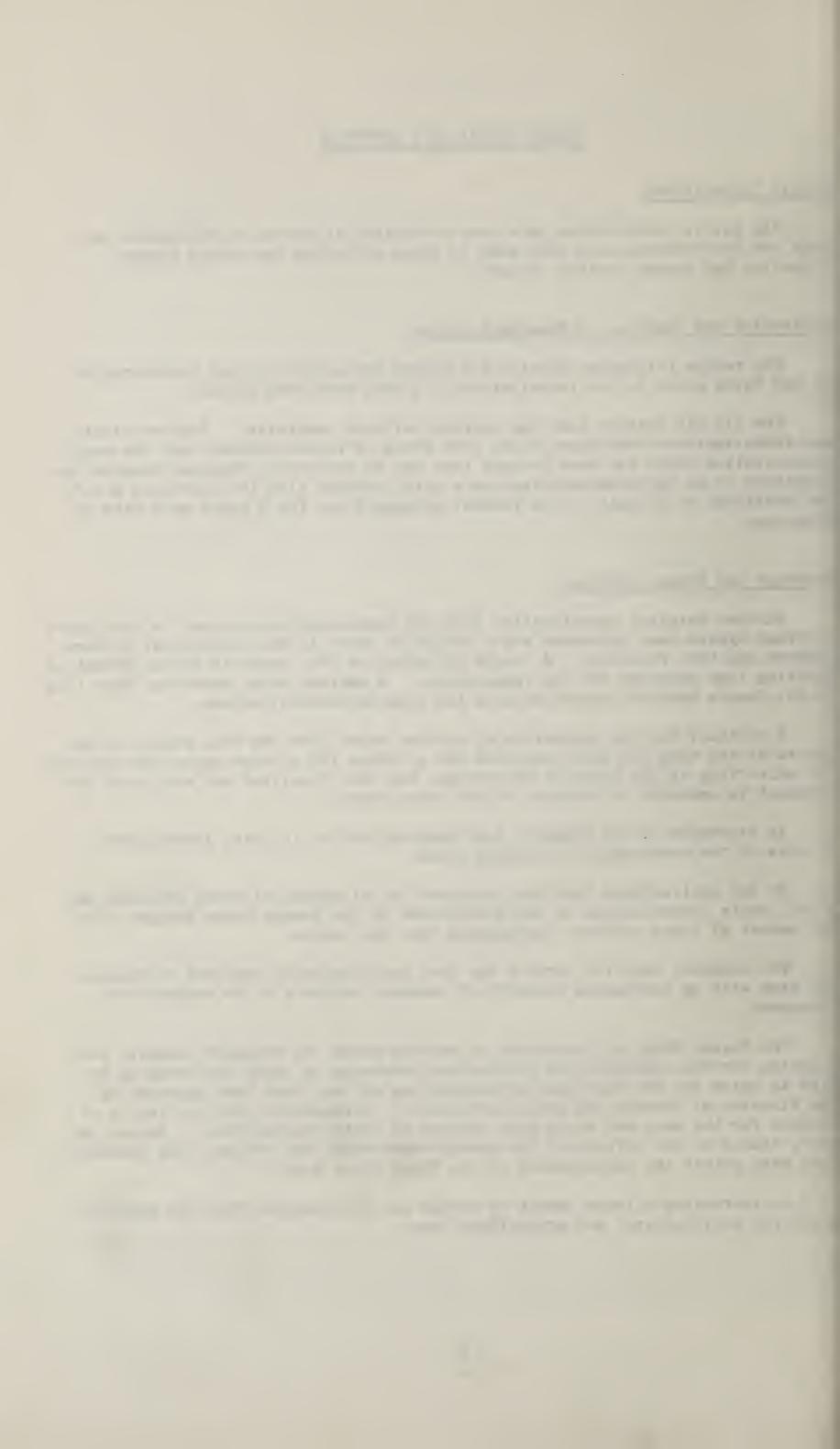
An extension of the Tamworth Road pumping station is being investigated in view of the overloading now taking place.

No new applications have been received for discharge of trade effluent but a full scale investigation is being continued by the Sewage Works Manager into the amount of trade effluent discharging into the sewers.

The cesspool emptying service has been satisfactorily operated throughout the year with an increasing quantity of cesspool contents to be removed for treatment.

The Sewage Works at Curborough is working above its designed capacity and a design for the extension and alterations necessary to bring the Works up to size to cater for the increased population has at long last been approved by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. Arrangements for invitation of tenders for the work are being made subject to staff availability. During the year, thanks to the efforts of the Sewage Works staff the effluent has generally been kept within the requirements of the Trent River Board.

An increasingly large amount of sludge has been removed from the Disposal Works for horticultural and agricultural use.



REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES

a) Food and Drugs Act 1955

During the year 32 complaints were received in respect of various articles of unsound food. Legal proceedings were instituted in 3 cases - one under Section 2 and two under Section 8 of the Act. All these prosecutions were successful, the articles concerned being a bottle of pasteurised milk, a packet of pikelets and a carton of chocolate rolls.

An unusual kind of complaint concerned a bottle of cooking oil which contained a splinter of wood about 4" in length. In this case the quality of the oil was not affected by the presence of the foreign body.

Most of the complaints received were about food which had apparently been kept longer than is desirable. Failure in stock rotation appears to be the principal reason for the majority of complaints received.

The total number of complaints was greater than in any previous year, but only one more than last year, when I commented on the various explanations which have been put forward at conferences where this subject has been discussed.

b) Unsound Food surrendered or condemned

Meat at retail	shops	• • •	○ • •	• • •	0 0 0	1	cwt.	89 1	lbs.
Cooked meat and	meat	produc	cts	• • •	• • ©			1/4	lb.
Canned meats	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	. 1	cwt.	$74\frac{3}{4}$	lbs.
Other Foods	• • •	0 0 0	0 0 0	• • •	• • •	9	cwt.	96	lbs.
Total	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • • •	• • •	13	cwt.	36	lbs.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960

(i) Principal Food Premises in the City

Meat Shops	15	Fruit and Vegetable Shops	14
Fried Fish Shops	2	Hotels	7
Fresh Fish Shops	3	Restaurants	12
Grocers	16	Public Houses	33
Confectioners	10		

In addition to the 15 meat shops, 3 of the new supermarkets have a section where fresh meat is sold. In each case refrigerated display cabinets are provided and most of the meat is in cellophane wrappers.

During the year one meat shop was closed and another opened in a different part of the City.

(ii) Routine Inspections

c)

During the year 164 visits were made to food shops and catering establishments in the City. In a few cases — depending on the kind of catering which is done — weekly visits are made to ensure that the requirements of the Regulations in regard to the handling of food are properly complied with. Twenty nine intimations were sent to occupiers of food premises concerning various contraventions of the Regulations but no legal proceedings were instituted. Food delivery vans and mobile food shops are inspected when found in the City.

(iii) Structural Improvements

The work of reconstruction of three food premises referred to in my previous report was completed during the year under review. These shops are all provided with refrigerated display cabinets and ample facilities for the use of employees. Lighting, ventilation and heating were found to be adequate in all thes reconstructed premises.



At one cafe where the conditions were unsatisfactory, chiefly because of cramped accommodation, arrangements were made for the business to be closed down temporarily to enable work of reconstruction to be done. Plans submitted by the proprietor showed improved facilities for food storage and preparation, adequate facilities for the use of employees and better provision for storage and collection of refuse material.

Work at a hotel referred to in my previous report was completed during the year and the improvements carried out will enable an acceptable standard of food hygiene to be maintained.

(iv) Sale of Ice-Cream

There are 42 premises in the City registered for the sale of ice-cream. With one exception pre-wrapped hard ice-cream is retailed, and in many cases the storage cabinet is provided by the manufacturers of the ice-cream. Before registration was granted for the sale of soft ice-cream the Health Committee interviewed a technical representative of the manufacturers who gave information regarding the machine used for this purpose. The occupier of the shop concerned was advised about the extra care which is necessary to ensure that this kind of equipment is kept free from contamination.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

a) Registrations and Inspections

Class of Premises	Number of premises registered during the year	Number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	œ	71	42
Retail Shops	3	138	66
Wholesale shops, Warehouses	out o	4	1
Catering establishments open to the			
public, canteens	ess	35	2
Fuel Storage Depots	caso	9	a es
TOTALS	3	257	111

b) Analysis of Contraventions

Contraventions in respect of :	Found .
Sec. 4 Cleanliness	1
Sec. 5 Overcrowding	es>
Sec. 6 Temperature	46
Sec. 7 Ventilation	a
Sec. 8 Lighting	gaso



Contraventions in respect of:	Found
Sec. 9 Sanitary Conveniences	1
Sec. 10 Washing facilities	21
Sec. 11 Supply of Drinking Water	CCD
Sec. 12 Clothing Accommodation	-
Sec. 13 Sitting facilities	œ
Sec. 14 Seats (Sedentary Workers)	e D
Sec. 15 Eating facilities	æ
Sec. 16 Floors, passages and stairs	2
Sec. 17 Fencing exposed parts machinery	can
Sec. 18 Protection of young persons from dangerous machinery	76ED
Sec. 19 Training of young persons working at dangerous machinery	ne e
Sec. 23 Prohibition of heavy work	025
Sec. 24 First Aid - General Provisions	26
TOTAL	97

The following notes are intended to amplyfy the information contained in the foregoing tables:-

As only three applications for registration were received during the year, it appears that the majority of the premises affected had already been registered as indicated in my previous report. Because of frequent changes of occupiers of retail shops, the register will have to be revised at least each year. It is my practice to notify occupiers of my intention to make general inspections. This procedure has proved helpful, since it avoids wasting time explaining the purpose of the visit.

It will be noticed that during the year under review, 42 of the general inspections made were at offices, where the standard of hygiene was, on the whole, very satisfactory. At one office it was noted that no provision had been made for ventilation — the windows which had been arranged for borrowed light did not communicate with the open air. Fortunately it was found practicable to instal mechanical ventilation and this was done shortly after the intimation was sent to the occupiers of the building. In the case of a catering establishment, complaints were received about a ventilation system which was so arranged that odours from the premises were noticed by the public. This difficulty was overcome by putting the existing ventilation system in reverse, since when no complaints have been received.



With a few exceptions, occupiers of offices and shops have been co-operative in regard to the general provisions of the Act. Most of the deficiencies were of a minor character, though on a few premises structural works were necessary. Reinspections will be made to ensure that all requirements of the Act are complied with. Among the improvements affected were the reconstruction of two shops, provision of a new staircase in place of a metal ladder, the reconstruction of an existing staircase and the provision of washing facilities for the use of employees.

The only accidents notified during the year concerned minor injuries, particulars of which were sent to H. M. Superintending Inspector of Factories when the appropriate returns were submitted.

There were no prosecutions under the Act during the year under review.

CLEAN AIR ACT 1956

During the year fourteen observations were made on one chimney in the City. One contravention was noticed and I am pleased to say that following representations made to the owners of the factory concerned, it was decided to replace the coal-fired boilers by an oil-fired installation. At the end of the year the owners had not finally decided about the type of plant to be installed but they did give me their assurance that it would be a smokeless installation and that every effort would be made to see that all the requirements of the Clean Air Act are complied with.

I am pleased to report that the electrification of the plant at Sandfields Pumping Station which had been in hand for some time was completed during the year and I understand that the brick stack will eventually be demolished.

Following the above-mentioned improvements there will be only three coal-fired installations in the City, all of which are provided with mechanical stokers and give rise to no nuisance from excessive emissions of smoke.

During the year a letter was received from the Midlands Joint Advisory Council for Clean Air and Noise Control suggesting that the City Council might consider the making of Smoke Control Orders, but it was felt that this could be deferred until some neighbouring areas, which are known to be heavily industrialised, have made more progress with their programmes. As all the new houses in the City are being provided with smoke consuming appliances, they could be included in smoke control areas without any structural work having to be done.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949

a) Rodent Operator

Mr. F. Walker who had held this position for six years resigned at the end of the year and Mr. A. R. Vinnell was appointed as rodent operator for two days weekly.

b) Block Surveys

These were continued during the year and experience has shown that they are useful in disclosing minor infestations which can be dealt with before assuming more serious proportions. Details of all premises visited are not kept, but the number of block surveys during 1966 was twelve, which means that all parts of the City are kept under review.

c) Refuse Tip, Dimbles Lane

Permanent baiting is practised at the Council's refuse tip, and although a few rats were noticed, there was no serious infestation.

d) Sewage Works, Curborough

These works which are outside the City, are visited at regular intervals and baiting is done when necessary. Towards the end of the year a fairly heavy infestation occurred but this was quickly brought under control.



The total number of inspections during the year arising out of complaints was 97. These inspections included 84 for rats and 13 for mice. The total number of visits for the purpose of baiting was 232.

In addition to rodent control, the operator deals with complaints about insects. Work in this connection is done free of charge on Council property, and on payment of the cost of labour and materials at privately owned houses.

Formal

1

HOUSING

a) Repair - Housing and Public Health Acts

Number of houses rendered fit after service of notices :-

			Section 9, 10 & 16 Housing Act 1957		Public Health and similar Local Acts		Totals	
		Informal	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal	For	
(a)	by owner	1		6	1	7		
(b)	by local authority	y xxx		xxx	ı	xxx		
b) Beyond Repair - Housing Act 1957								
	Number of: 1. u	ndertakings	accepted	(sectio	n 16)	=		
	2. ℃	losing order	rs made	(sectio	n 17)	(ID		
	3. d	3. demolition orders made (section 17)				2		
	4. c	losing order	rs made	(section	n 18)	=		
	5. c	5. closing orders determined (section 27)						
		losing order rders substi		4		ean		
c)	Clearance Areas			*				
	(1) Represented	during year	*					
	1. N	umber of are	eas ···	• • • • • •	• • •	1		
	2. H	ouses unfit	for human	habitation		19		
		3. Houses included by reason of bad arrange- ment etc						
	4. H	. Houses on land acquired under 43(2)				em .		
	5. Numbers of people to be displaced:							
	(a) Individu	uals	• • • • • •	• • •	44		
	(b) Familie	s	• • • • • •	• • •	19		
	(2) Action taken during the year:							
	1. Houses demolished by Local Authorities or Owner					Owners:		
	(a) Unfit	• • • • • •		• • •	50		
	(b) Others	•. • • •	• • • • •	• • •	caio		
	2. N	umbers of p	eople disp	laced:				
		a) Individ				142		
	`	b) Familie		• • • • • •		50		



During the year detailed inspections were made at 26 houses in Chapel Lane, 19 in Victoria Square, 13 in Church Street, 10 in St. John Street, 10 in Townfields 3 in George Lane, 1 in Stowe Street and 1 in Walsall Road. Records on the card index system are prepared in connection with these inspections which are made to determine what action, if any, should be taken under the Housing Acts.

d) Houses Improved or Modernised

The only area where there are houses suitable for improvement is Chesterfield Terrace - 40 houses - and most of these have already been provided with bathrooms, indoor sanitation and internal hot water supplies. In other cases letters have been sent to owners and owner/occupiers advising them of the Grants which are available in respect of approved works of improvement.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATH

During the year 27 samples were taken for chlorine test and 37 for bacteriological examination. All samples for chlorine test were reported to be satisfactory, while 5 of those submitted for bacteriological examination failed to reach the usual high standard.

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY

During the year 12 samples were taken for bacteriological examination ll of which proved to be satisfactory. In the case of the sample reported to be unsatisfactory, a further sample taken from the same tap proved satisfactory.

In one case after a householder had complained that the drinking water had an unusual taste, investigations were made and a sample taken was reported to be satisfactory.



